

**GENESIS 3:9-24**      *Though we have suffered deep damage, there is hope and restoration through God’s grace. This is especially true in Marriage.*

Let’s Review:

- Genesis One - I am created in God’s image. God the Father knows and declares who I am.
- Genesis 2:4-19 - I have been created for God’s purposes – to bring him glory before all the angels. In this I will find my greatest joy and satisfaction.
- Genesis 2:18-25 - God has made us male and female. We are different aspects of the glory of God. In marriage we fit together to fulfill God’s plans.
- Genesis 3:1-8 - Our identity as marvelously created in God’s image has been marred and damaged. There is a long journey ahead for those wishing to have that image fully restored in them.

## I. INTRODUCTION

- The Fall = the disordered person
  - o Emotionally Malfunctioning
  - o Relationally Broken
  - o Cognitively Confused
- For the disordered person: relationships at the deepest level become dysfunctional

## II. WHAT GOD HAS CONSIGNED US TO:

<sup>8</sup> And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> **But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"**

<sup>14</sup> The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup> I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

<sup>16</sup> To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

<sup>17</sup> And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; <sup>18</sup> thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return." (Genesis 3)

- Injury not to just our person – but with all we deal with/relate to
- Limitations – An act of God’s kindness

#### **IV. THE TRAGEDY IN MARRIAGE**

- Marriage:
  - o First of all human institutions
  - o Key to humanity's success
  - o Richest of God's blessings
- Deeply Dmaged
  - o No longer about mutual ministry
  - o No longer about safety & protection
  - o No longer reciprocal
- Painful statistics

#### **III. SIGNS OF HOPE**

<sup>20</sup> The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. (Genesis 3)

#### **IV. WORKING OUT THE REDEMPTION**

- Many of us deeply wounded
  - o From parents
  - o For Ourselves
  - o Our own children
- For some: situation intolerable
- For some: much to repent of ...
- For some: pressing on through the brokenness
- Experiencing the kindness of God

#### **V. LIVING IN HOPE**

- Understand the sovereign reign of God
- Resolve to live in the Spirit's power
- Keep the long view in mind
- Forgive just as God forgave you
- Continue to choose to love as Christ loves
- Live intentionally for the sake of your marriage